

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2 and 4-7 as being unpatentable over Sergeant et al. in view of Kawai, in further view of Smith in further view of Shibata.

The Examiner cites Sergeant et al. as teaching pan and tilt operation of a surveillance camera, including a camera driving unit.

The Examiner cites Kawai as teaching a micro-computer unit for producing a positional signal and being operative to take two different states.

However, claim 1 includes the limitation that one of the states is an "irregular state caused by the micro-computer unit being in a frozen state". No such limitation is found in Kawai, which deals with states established by a stop button (which the micro-computer unit accepts as input data and continues to execute code); not a system crash/reboot (frozen/reset).

The Examiner cites Kawai as teaching a camera drive control unit having "a second control state under which the camera unit is driven to move into engagement with a resetting unit".

It is respectfully submitted that this is not the case. Claim 1 includes a camera drive control unit that has "a second control state under which the camera unit is driven to move into engagement with a resetting unit". There is no such characteristic in Kawai. Kawai does not use the camera unit physically engaging a reset unit to reset a micro-computer unit. Kawai simply returns to the initial camera position at the end of a session, something it could not do if its micro-computer was frozen.

The Examiner cites Kawai as teaching "setting the camera drive control unit to take a first control state when receiving the regular state signal while setting the drive control unit to take the second state when not receiving the regular state signal".

It is respectfully submitted that this is not the case. There is no indication in Kawai that the state of the camera state setting unit is dependent on receiving a "regularly repeating state signal".

The Examiner cites Smith as teaching "resetting from one state to another state in response to engagement with the camera unit".

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However, Smith is simply using limit switches to provide input to some logic circuitry. The states involved in Smith are not between a regular state and a frozen state. If Smith was "frozen" there would be no reset from the limit switches.

The Examiner cites Shibata as teaching a watchdog timer for use with the limit switches of Smith.

However, there would be no reason to combine the two, as the watchdog of Shibata directly resets the attached microcomputer and Smith does not have a micro-computer unit to reset.

It is respectfully submitted that based on not having all of the claimed elements in the cited references and the lack of reasons to combine the references, claim 1 is allowable. The processing of Kawai does not contain all of the processing elements of claim 1 and any advantages in combining the references would only be apparent in impermissible hindsight.

As claims 2-7 are dependent on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also allowable and any outstanding rejections are now moot and will not be further addressed.

In view of the discussion of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is also allowable.

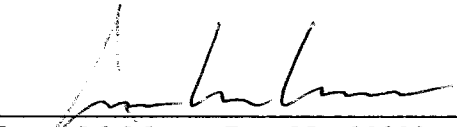
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and notification of same is requested.

If any further fees are required by this communication, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. ARI-35847.

Respectfully submitted,

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